

Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA

§ 1215.72

Act, this subpart, and the rule and regulations issued thereunder shall be kept confidential by all persons, including all employees, agents, and former employees and agents of the Board; all officers, employees, agents, and former officers, employees, and agents of the Department; and all officers, employees, agents, and former officers, employees, agents, and former of contracting and subcontracting agencies or agreeing parties having access to such information. Such information shall not be available to Board members or processors. Only those persons having a specific need for such information to administer effectively the provisions of this part shall have access to such information. Only such information so obtained as the Secretary deems relevant shall be disclosed by them, and then only in a suit or administrative hearing brought at the direction, or on the request, of the Secretary, or to which the Secretary or any officer of the United States is a party, and involving this part.

(b) No information obtained under the authority of this part may be made available to any agency or officer of the Federal Government for any purpose other than the implementation of the Act and any investigatory or enforcement action necessary for the implementation of the Act.

(c) Nothing in paragraph (a) of this section may be deemed to prohibit:

(1) The issuance of general statements based upon the reports of the number of persons subject to this part or statistical data collected therefrom, which statements do not identify the information furnished by any person;

(2) The publication, by direction of the Secretary, of the name of any person who has violated this part, together with a statement of the particular provisions of this part violated by such person.

(d) Any person who knowingly violated the provisions of this section, on conviction, shall be subject to a fine of not more than \$1,000 or to imprisonment for not more than 1 year, or both, or if the person is an officer, employee, or agent of the Board or the Department, that person shall be removed from office or terminated from employment as applicable.

MISCELLANEOUS

§ 1215.70 Right of the Secretary.

All fiscal matters, programs, plans, or projects, contracts, rules or regulations, reports, or other substantive actions proposed and prepared by the Board shall be submitted to the Secretary for approval.

§ 1215.71 Suspension or termination.

(a) Whenever the Secretary finds that this subpart or any provision thereof obstructs or does not tend to effectuate the declared policy of the Act, the Secretary shall terminate or suspend the operation of this subpart or such provision thereof.

(b) The Secretary may conduct additional referenda to determine whether processors favor termination or suspension of this subpart three years after the effective date, on the request of a representative group comprising 30 percent or more of the number of processors who have been engaged in processing during a representative period as determined by the Secretary.

(c) Whenever the Secretary determines that suspension or termination of this subpart is favored by two-thirds or more of the popcorn processors voting in a referendum under paragraph (b) of this section who, during a representative period determined by the Secretary, have been engaged in the processing, the Secretary shall:

(1) Suspend or terminate, as appropriate, collection of assessments within six months after making such determination; and

(2) Suspend or terminate, as appropriate, all activities under this subpart in an orderly manner as soon as practicable.

(d) Referenda conducted under this subsection shall be conducted in such manner as the Secretary may prescribe.

§ 1215.72 Proceedings after termination.

(a) Upon the termination of this subpart, the Board shall recommend not more than five of its members to the Secretary to serve as trustees for the purpose of liquidating the affairs of the Board. Such persons, upon designation by the Secretary, shall become trustees